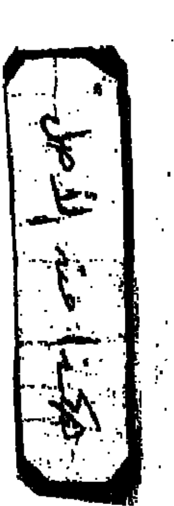


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Path towards arms limitation remains a tortuous one

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Any change in East-West relations by way of specific arms limitation moves and human rights improvements can only be the result of a gradual development.

First signs of greater flexibility and *"openness" in Soviet policy are apparent,* but Moscow is still poles apart from any radical reduction in its armed forces.

It has not even dispensed with their use in marginal sectors, which retain strategic significance for the Soviet Union.

Mr Gorbachov's fundamental address reiterated his ambitious domestic projects and his vision of a world free from nuclear weapons by the turn of the century.

But it contained no new arms limitation proposals and failed to suggest whether the Soviet Union and the United States might conclude a first arms reduction agreement during the remainder of President Reagan's second term.

So the West would be well advised to be ready to negotiate and to show understanding for the Soviet leader — with due regard for vital Western security interests.

Swift solutions need not be expected. European experience shows, and is here reaffirmed, that on fundamental issues only slow progress — in keeping with partners' national interests — is possible.

The American inclination to arrive at *swift solutions remains unfulfilled, or so* initial analyses by Nato's political and military leaders in the wake of Mr Gorbachov's speech can be summarised.

These conclusions will now be incorporated in planning for East-West talks in which Nato countries are to take part, especially the preliminary talks in Vienna on a mandate for negotiations on conventional arms reduction "from the Atlantic to the Urals."

No-one at the helm of the alliance doubts that the West, providing it demonstrates the necessary unity, ought to make use of every available opportunity for negotiation.

Nato's dual role, as outlined nearly 20 years ago in the Harmel Report (endeavours to reduce tension by means of credible deterrent capacity and defence), remains unchanged. Now, it is noted in Brussels, is the time for it to prove its worth.

Formulating and arriving at decisions on common policy is, of course, handicapped by the Reagan administration being largely immobilised by Democratic majorities in both Houses of Congress and by the ongoing fundamental dispute within the administration on arms limitation and its prospects.

To begin with, President Reagan's decision on a new and more far-reaching interpretation of the ABM Treaty on mutual limitation of anti-missile systems by the two superpowers must be awaited.

The White House is familiar with the misgivings felt by America's main Nato partners about parting company with the existing provisions of the ABM Treaty. They were last reiterated in Washington by British Defence Minister George Younger.

It is now up to President Reagan to decide whether he is deliberately prepared to jeopardise the further progress of the Geneva talks for the sake of a possible stationing of initial SDI facilities in the early 1990s.

If Mr Gorbachov is taken at his word, progress toward an agreement on the "zero option" for medium-range missiles — and especially an initial 50-per-cent reduction in strategic arms stocks — is subject to strict observation of the ABM Treaty.

US Defence Secretary Weinberger is in contrast convinced that deterrence is America's best security guarantee. He is keen to commit Mr Reagan's successors in particular to SDI, and to persuade them to commit themselves irrevocably.

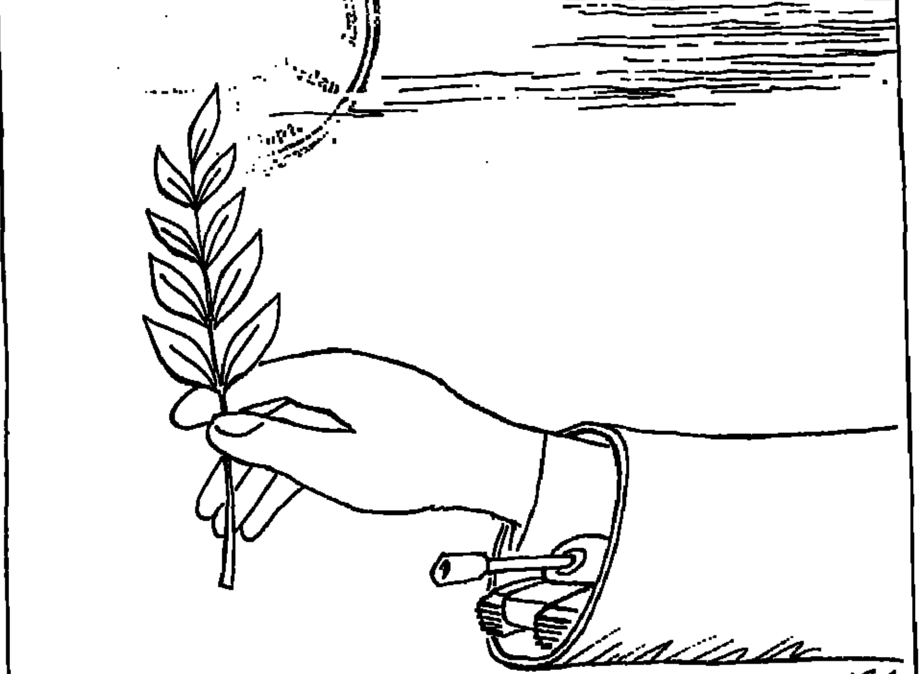
So President Reagan will soon have to say — or so experts in Brussels claim — whether he is playing SDI as a trump card in Geneva (without admitting so, of course) or he feels he can force the Soviet Union to make further concessions by insisting on the project.

The Americans are, with some justification, a little tired of the hot and cold showers of European fears and warnings. Nato officials can understand the Americans saying so, and outspokenly at times.

The "zero option" debate was a textbook example of this outlook. Yet it reflected what, for the Europeans, was a bitter realisation.

It was that Nato countries can, in the final ahalysis and despite all consultation, not exert influence on the decisions reached by the superpowers because they lack the unity needed to bring their true political (and strategic) weight to bear.

That is why, in the long run, they remain mere onlookers whose vital interests depend on what happens at the summit.



(Cartoon: Mitropoulos/Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

In future a successful detente policy — successful because it fails to succumb to illusions — will only be possible if the European element comes into play in coordination with the United States.

That is why America's Nato partners will have such an important part to play in future negotiations on arms limitation in Europe, on "confidence-building measures" and on the limitation and reduction of chemical weapons.

It remains to be seen whether they will succeed in arriving at a sound basis for negotiations between the superpowers.

It is certainly gratifying to note the extent to which views or objections of European Nato countries have already become a firm part of the work of the North Atlantic Council.

Keen attention is also paid at Nato headquarters in Brussels to growing American tendencies toward protectionism and toward concentration on domestic affairs and to occasional references, not only by Democrats, to possible unilateral US troop cuts in Western Europe.

Proposals such as those made by former National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski for the withdrawal of a majority of US units to set up a rapid deployment force for hot spots in the Near and Middle East are felt to be unjustified.

It would cost Washington far more to airlift them across the Atlantic than from Europe. But a clear distinction must be drawn between the attitude of the Federal government in Washington and the outlook held by US public opinion.

The government still feels the presence of US forces in Europe is a decisive contribution toward American security, whereas US public opinion is far removed from Nato's early years and convinced, bearing in mind the overwhelming US budget deficit, that the Europeans must largely foot the bill for their own defence.

American opinion studiously overlooks the fact that European Nato countries would already raise the lion's share of combat troops and air force units in the event of hostilities.

Washington may at times be irritated by European behaviour, but it is only fair to say that America has pursued an extensive variety of policies toward the Soviet Union since the war.

They have ranged from "containment," the long-term aim of which was to wait for more flexible Soviet policies, to the threat of "massive retaliation," hopes of the West proving an all-powerful attraction and the Soviet system collapsing by virtue of its internal contradictions, the "detente" of the Nixon era, hopes of economically checkmating the Soviet Union and the establishment of American military or technological supremacy.

In the final analysis all these approaches have failed because they were extreme demands no world power could consider meeting.

Mr Gorbachov now presents the possibility of a more stable approach to coexistence with the Soviet Union and a slow demilitarisation of long-term conflict.

Washington, Nato sources say, must here keep its impatience and compulsive desire for swift solutions in check. Only then will the improvement for which everyone is hoping prove possible.

Jan Reifenberg

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 February 1987)

IN THIS ISSUE

■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Wider worries for Soviets in Afghanistan

WELT am SONNTAG

The unrest in Alma Ata, capital of the Soviet republic of Kazakhstan, is closely associated with the war in Afghanistan.

Ever since the serious mid-December riots in Central Asia the Soviet Party leader, Mr Gorbachov, has tried to bring to a swift conclusion the guerrilla war into which Brezhnev plunged his country seven years ago.

In the muzzled Soviet media there is more plain speaking than ever before about the disadvantageous economic and moral consequences of the Afghan adventure.

The expense of the war, says an article in *Moscow News*, a newspaper intended for foreign consumption, is detrimental to Soviet development plans.

After a troop withdrawal "our young soldiers (would) stay alive and notifications of death would no longer cause Soviet families untold grief."

That is doubtless meant seriously; the number of Soviet war dead is estimated at between 15,000 and 20,000. Yet lives lost have never yet cast doubt on the Soviet leaders' victory doctrine.

The reason for Soviet moves and their urgency must be sought in another quarter: successful resistance by Afghan mujaheddin has strengthened the Muslim population of neighbouring Soviet republics in their traditional opposition to Soviet hegemony.

The progress of the war has shown them that the Red Army is not invincible. Religious fundamentalism has proved a powerful weapon in the freedom struggle. Resistance is *not* to no avail.

Unrest broke out in Kazakhstan after Mr Gorbachov sacked Party leader Dinmukhamed Kunayev, a Kazakh appointed by Brezhnev in 1964, for "maladministration and corruption" and replaced him with a Greater Russian, Gennady Kolbin.

There was a fair uprising, with dozens of dead. A Kazakh was appointed — rather than a Greater Russian — as deputy leader to soothe the sense of popular outrage.

Moscow had to send in a politbureau member, Mikhail Solomentsev, as a fire brigade to square accounts with the old leadership.

The rioters were called "nationalist and anti-social elements" and "parasites," by which Moscow means religious fanatics.

That would seem to indicate that the unrest was the handiwork not (or not only) of Kunayev supporters but of the Islamic minority in Kazakhstan.

The riots cast a bright and glaring light on the inner condition of the Soviet empire. The Soviet Union shares with China the distinction of being the world's largest multinational power.

Its multinational structure has much in common with pre-World War I Austro-Hungary.

The Habsburg empire was also shaken by national struggles and rivalries until it finally disintegrated in the First World War.

The many domestic nationalities that were suppressed in the course of Tsarist and Soviet dictatorship include the Muslim Turkmen peoples, who include the Kazakhs.

The number of people under the influence of the Koran is increasing all over the world, and there are now 50 million Moslems in the Soviet Union.

They make up over a sixth of the population. Over half of them are under 20. The number of Greater Russians is declining in relation to them and other southern Soviet nationalities.

Dramatic demographic, national and political changes are sure to result in centuries to come. The Islamic belt from the Mediterranean via South-West and South Asia to the Pacific regions of South-East Asia is in the throes of domestic expansion.

Given the cluster of wars and guerrilla fighting it must be seen as one of the world's conflict zones.

Mr Gorbachov only recently declared "uncompromising war" on Islamic religious movements among the nationalities of South Asia. Events in Afghanistan and their repercussions in the Soviet Union may have been instrumental in prompting this declaration of war.

Riots occurred in Kazakhstan in 1980 when Soviet soldiers of Kazakh nationality killed in action in Afghanistan were buried in Soviet military cemeteries rather than in Muslim cemeteries.

From the early days of the war Moscow had kept Turkmen nationals out of the Soviet army of occupation rather than run the risk of "infection" in Afghanistan.

According to information that has reached the West, partly as a result of the more open Soviet supply of news since the Alma Ata unrest, traditional dislike of Moscow in South Asian areas of the Soviet Union, which has intensified in recent years, was mainly to blame for the riots.

In Kazakhstan the Tsarist army massacred local nomads in 1916, while roughly one million Kazakhs died of famine during the enforced settlement of the nomadic population ordered by Stalin.

Nations have long memories. They never forget. The West was merely long kept in the dark about xenophobia and struggles between nationalities in the region.

They were subjected to a news blackout that was first officially breached in connection with the Alma Ata riots.

Herbert Kremp

(Welt am Sonntag, Hamburg, 8 February 1987)

Satirical piece on TV leaves Iran unamused

Fourteen seconds was all it took a German TV satire programme, Rudi Carrell's *Tagesshow*, to rouse Iranian ire. The end, still not in sight, seems unlikely to be funny.

Ayatollah Khomeini was seen taking a march-past of "daughters of the revolution" who divested themselves of gaily-coloured lingerie as they passed him.

The result has been a virtual affair of state, with senior Iranian officials feeling insulted, with their religious sensibilities shocked.

True, the scene wasn't in particularly good taste. Khomeini is revered by his fanatical supporters as a supreme religious authority and head of state. Millions believe implicitly in him as the proclaimer of God's word.

It is reasonable to assume that no-one in this country would have been particularly amused if ladies' underwear had

Continued on page 5

Pluton and Hades and equation of European security

DIE WELT

Where is German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher one up on his French opposite number, Jean-Bernard Raimond? The answer given to this question posed in French salons shows it to be meant sarcastically.

Both are said to be agreed that Soviet "new thinking" gives grounds for hope and that the unreliable customer is Washington, not Moscow.

But the conclusions reached by the two Foreign Ministers differ.

M. Raimond is said to be worried President Reagan's wishful thinking on a world free from nuclear weapons might go so far as to make decoupling the defence of Western Europe seem less important.

That, of course, is assuming the Russians were to insist on decoupling in return, say, for a reduction in their nuclear arsenal.

Herr Genscher is said to take a similar view but to advocate missing no opportunity presented by the throes of change in East-West rapprochement. He is allegedly enamoured of a broker's role in advocating the Soviet reform course.

German foreign policy is said to be so confident in Mr Gorbachov that it is no longer opposed to a reduction in intermediate nuclear forces in Europe, thereby encouraging those in the United States who feel the "zero option" of unilateral troop withdrawals is only logical.

On this, as on other issues, much depends on the Bonn Chancellor. But as long as he fails to clarify matters it is the impression Herr Genscher makes that will count.

As a result, what is seen in Bonn as the beginning of a second detente offensive is felt in Paris to be a possible fresh phase of tension.

The French feel they have already been half left in the lurch by the Americans and are also worried a US-Soviet agreement on the withdrawal of medium-range missiles might not be followed by a satisfactory solution in the short-range sector.

That would first and foremost threaten the Federal Republic, but France would be next in line.

There is a school of thought in the Fifth Republic that feels this would not be an ill wind. Any further step in the direction of a "zero option" would restore France's leadership role of old in Europe.

Once the Germans realise that without the US nuclear shield they are at the mercy of Soviet short-range missiles the entente cordiale between Paris and Bonn will arguably gain an entirely new quality.

What choice would Bonn have? To offset the Eastern missile threat there would either have to be another Nato decision — or the Federal Republic must seek the shelter of a nuclear neighbour.

As the Bonn Christian and Free Democratic coalition's hands would be tied for domestic reasons where the first option was concerned, France would promptly offer its services as the alternative.

Deployment of extra Pluton and Hades missiles would merely take time and money — and agreement on both could be reached with Bonn.

But this French scenario envisages the use of tactical nuclear weapons on the territory of the two German states. The Pluton has a range of 120km (75 miles), while that of the Hades missile, which will not be available until 1992, is only 400km (250 miles) or so.

Even if President Mitterrand were generously to offer the German Chancellor a say in target planning, the Germans would in the final analysis only be able to choose between Frankfurt am Main and Frankfurt on the Oder as nuclear battlefields.

There is, however, another school of thought in France. It is that a missile build-up limited to Pluton and Hades missiles would be doomed to failure, though not on account of Franco-German relations; the French have never been particularly strong on delicacy of feeling, as shown by Indo-China or Algeria.

What upsets this school of thought is the panhandle "pre-strategic" that has been given to what are short-range missiles.

How can Pluton and Hades possibly pose a threat to the Kremlin, it is asked, when their range rules out targets in the Soviet Union?

Besides, missile stocks left in Asia in the wake of a zero option negotiated by America and Russia could swiftly be transferred, so the Kremlin would be in a position to threaten laying Western Europe to nuclear waste — and to run a calculable risk in doing so.

Thus the only real deterrent would be France's strategic missile systems on the Albion plateau and on board French nuclear submarines.

Great resolution will be needed to maintain this French nuclear potential. France can expect to be subjected to tremendous pressure once the Americans and Russians agree to scrap a substantial proportion of their ballistic missiles.

"Where, then, is M. Raimond one up on Herr Genscher?" Germany is bound to ask in return.

The answer is that Paris is known to see the East-West dilemma the Federal Republic will face if Bonn and Washington set greater store by confidence in the Soviet leader's "new thinking" than by assured European defence capability.

Bonn is not yet known to be aware of this dilemma.

Peter Ruge

(Die Welt, Bonn, 19 February 1987)

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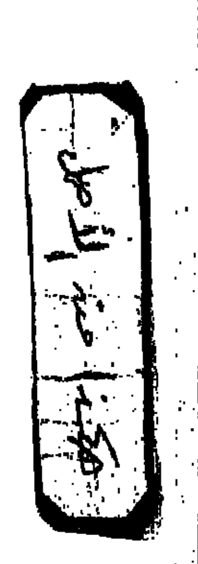
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Lambsdorff (left), Friderichs (centre) and von Brauchitsch . . . end of 18-month hearing. (Photos: Sven Simon 2, dpa)

■ HOME AFFAIRS

Ex ministers convicted of evading tax but acquitted on bribery charges

Two former Bonn Cabinet ministers and a leading industrialist have been convicted on charges of tax evasion. They were acquitted on the more serious charges of offering and receiving bribes. Count Otto Lambsdorff, a Free Democrat and former Economic Affairs Minister, was fined 180,000 marks for evading tax on 1.5 million marks paid into his party's funds. Another former Free Democrat Economic Affairs Minister, Hans Friderichs, was fined 61,500 marks on a similar charge. Eberhard von Brauchitsch, a former chief executive of the huge Flick industrial group, was fined 550,000 marks and jailed for two years for evading 18 million marks in taxes. The jail sentence was suspended. The result seems to leave the way clear for Count Lambsdorff to return to active politics.

The decision to clear Lambsdorff, Friderichs and von Brauchitsch on the bribery charges was qualified by a comment from the bench that they had been less than honest.

The three had "bad memories" and had not said all, said the judges in a ruling full of moral and political reproach.

West German criminal law no longer officially acknowledges a "second-class" acquittal on the grounds of a lack of evidence. Yet in this case the acquittal was "third-class".

The judges wished the thee had been "a little more realistic about the assessment of credibility" in giving evidence.

At the end of trial the judges repeated what they had suspected throughout the trial: that, despite their protestations, von Brauchitsch had handed over several hundred thousand marks to the former ministers.

What prevented the judges from convicting the defendants is important in terms of criminal law but not so significant politically and morally.

As opposed to officials lower down the administrative ladder, who are accused of bribery as soon as they accept as much as a ball-point pen from a client, ministers are not just the senior representatives of their authorities, but also party politicians who try to obtain money for their parties.

So it cannot be ruled out that Flick made his donations to secure general political goodwill (which is not a punishable offence) and not to secure tax waivers (which is). The verdict was lenient. The sentences were not only much lighter than the prosecution wanted, but also light compared with decisions in similar cases.

The judges, however, did not mince their words on the seriousness of the case.

Tax laws, they emphasised, cannot be simply ignored by politicians as they see fit or decisions by the Federal Consitutional Court disregarded.

More than just a few million marks in lost taxes are at stake.

The constitutional dictate of equal opportunities for political parties with regard to donations and donors was blatantly neglected.

The fact that Lambsdorff, Friderichs and von Brauchitsch are not alone when it comes to crimes of this nature moderated the judges' verdict.

If Lambsdorff, for example, has been sentenced because of simply mediating between the donor and his party's treasurer — a claim for which there is no plausible counter-claim — many top politicians and top industrial managers can thank their lucky stars and the brevity of public memory that they were not in the dock too.

The trial again showed all too clearly that the illegal funding of political parties was the rule and not the exception. All high-ranking politicians and industrialists abetted this practice.

The main hearing against Friderichs, Lambsdorff and von Brauchitsch was conducted fairly and concluded with a lenient verdict.

However, only the reference to the inadequacies of human justice can justify the fact that these three defendants of all people should have to bear the burden of the tax evasion conviction.

All those persons, on the other hand, who did exactly the same or who were the real beneficiaries of illegal financial practices can sit back and enjoy their retirement years or can still be found in the corridors of power.

The essence of the party donations scandal demands too much of judicial *possibilities*.

If the industrial elite deliberately disregards legal norms and political leaders disregard the laws they ask other citizens to heed the individual cases examined in the courts are just the tip of an iceberg.

No-one can blame von Brauchitsch, Lambsdorff and Friderichs if they feel that they are the scapegoats for others.

Stefan Geiger

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 17 February 1987)

Decision leaves Lambsdorff in line for return to politics

Count Otto Lambsdorff will probably become even more involved in active politics now that the Flick trial is over.

But he is unlikely to be included as a minister in the near future. Count Lambsdorff himself says he is not interested in a cabinet job. Instead, he would like to be re-elected as economic affairs spokesman for the FDP's parliamentary party.

He sees the possibility of returning to the Cabinet unlikely inside two years.

He hopes that by that time a great deal will have happened in the field of judicial decisions to "decrimininalise" former party-political funding practices.

Lambsdorff will be appealing to the Federal Supreme Court in his own case.

The Federal Finance Court and in all probability the Federal Constitutional Court will also have to state their positions on the previously tacit toleration by the financial authorities of the financing of political parties.

Only then, Lambsdorff feels, is there a chance of real rehabilitation.

Following the statement by FDP leader, Martin Bangemann, that he is willing to continue the party's role of junior coalition partner with three cabinet ministers, Chancellor Kohl is not faced by the question of which ministry to give Lambsdorff.

Officially Bangemann's statement has nothing to do with Lambsdorff, but Bangemann is only too aware of the desire of the industry lobby and industrial press to see the Count back in the Economics Ministry in Bonn.

Personal intrigues, however, don't stand a chance against Bangemann following his party's clear election victory and his own personal victory in his Stuttgart constituency. Lambsdorff had

Continued on page 4

The Flick affair

On 6 October, 1975, a Bonn businessman by the name of Peter Müllenbach brought charges against a business associate whom he thought had swindled him out of DM110,000.

The public prosecutor smelt a fish and sent the files to a well-known tax invesigator, Klaus Förster.

Förster was asked to find out how Müllenbach (a member of the CDU and decorated with the Order of the Federal Republic) had got hold of so much money and whether it had been taxed.

At the beginning of 1976 the tax investigators found a file with the abbreviation "EU" while searching through Müllenbach's firm, which worked the CDU.

The abbreviation stood for *Europäische Unternehmensberatungsanstalt*, a management consultancy company based in Liechtenstein which sold "cheap", (read: worthless), expertise to West German firms at a high price, thus enabling donations to the CDU to bypass the finance offices.

This was the start what was later to be known as the "party donations affair".

In 1978 Nikolaus Fasolt was elected successor to the murdered president of the employers' federation BDI, Hanns-Martin Schleyer.

After it was discovered that Fasolt was mixed up in the affair he stepped down from office on 18 August. He was fined DM58,000.

More and more people began to take notice of the affair. On 25 November, 1981, public prosecutors and tax officials finished their investigations on the premises of the Flick group.

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

In the years 1982 and 1983 the public prosecutors examined 191 witnesses, searched through 59 private flats and business offices, mainly those of political parties, checked 78 bank accounts, evaluated all the books of the Flick group and came across the famous symbol "wg." used by the Flick "book-keeper" Diehl.

The prosecutors took along almost 400 files from the Flick headquarters in Düsseldorf. To begin with, 10 people were suspected of criminal offences.

A closer look was also taken at the practices of the CDU, FDP and SPD.

On 23 November, 1983, the public prosecutor in Bonn announced that charges had been brought against Count Otto Lambsdorff and Hans Friderichs and the former Flick executive Eberhard von Brauchitsch.

On 26 July, 1984, Lambsdorff resigned as Economics Minister. On 10 January, 1985, the planned start of the trial was postponed.

Within just a few weeks the public prosecution has compiled a comprehensive indictment on the charge of tax evasion within the framework of illegal financing of political parties.

The party donations trial began on 29 August, 1985. On 23 July, 1986, the court announced that a sentence on the grounds of bribery was improbable.

The final verdict for von Brauchitsch, Lambsdorff and Friderichs was pronounced on 16 February, the 127th day of proceedings. *dpa*

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 17 February 1987)

■ PEOPLE IN POLITICS

A cautious Lafontaine waits for the party to call

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Oskar Lafontaine, Premier of the Saar, has been one of the most interviewed Social Democrat politicians since the break up of the Greens-SPD coalition in Hesse last month.

Lafontaine, one of the first names that comes to mind whenever people talk about renewal within the SPD, was upset over the coalition collapse — more upset than he admits.

The day after the general election, (but before the end of the Hesse coalition) in which the SPD received its expected hiding, Lafontaine told the press that there was no point in shunning the Greens.

Many of his own party members felt that Lafontaine's unusual public appearance in Bonn (as a State politician, he was not directly concerned with the election) was his way of staking a claim to the SPD leadership.

He is now doing some pretty clever backtracking on what he said. At the same time, he dismisses claims that his statement was a tactical publicity stunt.

A striking feature of Lafontaine's latest interviews is their relative mellowness for a man who is fond of juicy statements.

Critics who sense subterfuge every time Lafontaine raises his eyebrows feel he is doing some elegant tactical manoeuvring in a bid to win over the support of a majority in the SPD.

The chairmen of the CDU and FDP in the Saarland, Peter Jacobi and Horst Rehberger, are bitter opponents of Lafontaine, who was formerly mayor of Saarbrücken.

Jacobi, is faced by the thankless task of putting the desolate CDU back on its feet, cannot find a good word to say about him.

He regards him as an opportunist who trims his sails to whichever way the wind happens to be blowing.

Lafontaine, Jacobi claims, talks left wing and acts right wing, depending on circumstances.

He says Lafontaine has no scruples when it comes to abandoning former views for the sake of political expediency.

Jacobi quotes what he says are examples where Lafontaine has failed to keep promises or promised one thing and did another.

He also refers to Lafontaine's "sleight of hand" in his attitude towards Nato. In an interview for the *Saarbrücker Zeitung*, Lafontaine stated that he does not uphold his previous demand to pull the Federal Republic of Germany out of the military integration of the alliance.

All he wants, he said, is that the US medium-range missiles deployed in the Federal Republic be taken out of worldwide nuclear operations planning.

Furthermore, Lafontaine insisted, efforts must be made to ensure that Nato installations in the Federal Republic are not involved in worldwide operations.

In Horst Rehberger's opinion this reveals a "confusing flexiblity" in the statements Lafontaine makes on political issues.

Rehberger's answer to the question what he feels about Lafontaine came like a shot: "I regard him as a brilliantly talented opportunist".

Rehberger angrily described the attempts by Lafontaine behind the scenes to take advantage of his former links with the FDP, which is now committed to the CDU in the Saarland, to make sure he has a possible junior coalition partner if the SPD should lose its absolute majority in the next Saarland state election in 1990.

"He's read more Macchiavelli than Marx and Engels," Rehberger said.

The chairman of the Saarland CDU, Peter Jacobi, also feels that Lafontaine has a definite craving for power.

Both Jacobi and Rehberger are convinced that power is Lafontaine's "primary" goal.

Admittedly, no politician can make it to the top without a certain hunger for influence. Only those with power can push through their ideas.

In this sense Lafontaine is power-conscious.

This explains why he was upset, more than he is willing to admit, by the collapse of the SPD-Greens coalition in Hesse.

The word used by Lafontaine himself at the Saarbrücken Press Club was "disappointed".

He is also a little angry with his party colleague Holger Börner.

Lafontaine just cannot understand why the Social Democrats and the Greens fell out over the nuclear energy issue, since policies in this field are decided in Bonn.

Nevertheless, Lafontaine is more critical of the Greens than of his fellow Social Democrats.

He feels that "the herd started moving" in Hesse and that the Green Environment Minister Joschka Fischer had no option but to "take the lead".

Lafontaine is convinced that many Greens "confuse wishful thinking with politics".

He gets particularly angry about Jutta Ditfurth, a member of the Greens executive committee.

In his opinion she makes political demands without considering the ministerial responsibilities.

"This is an apolitical attitude," he complains.

In view of all these rebukes the fact that Lafonataine is one of the most ardent supporters of collaboration between the SPD and Greens is something of a surprise.

In his own words "there is no alternative".

In the Saarland state election just two years ago he managed to beat the Greens on their own issues.



Accused of being Machiavellian .. Saar Premier Lafontaine.

(Photo: Poly-Pre

Today, however, even Lafontaine has his doubts about his ability to repeat the success in his native Saarland or in Bonn.

This is why he untiringly tries to get the Social Democrats on the right road to success.

Lafontaine dismisses opposition in the SPD to his course as minority positions.

The SPD in Hesse, for example, already announced its willingness to work together with the Greens in future immediately after the coalition collapsed.

Once again, the crux is the question of power.

Lafontaine indirectly addresses the question by referring to the need for a "political majority" to avert the threatening devastation by nuclear weapons and the gradual poisoning of the Federal Republic and its inhabitants.

Lafontaine views this as "infinitely more important than all party-political questions".

This is why Oskar Lafontaine would also seek a majority with the CDU and FDP, even if the SPD is forced to accept substantial compromises.

This sounds like the position of a self-confident politician who is bent on leading his party out of its opposition role.

However, despite all the delicate irony on issues he regards as superfluous and despite the relaxed impression he gives during interviews Lafontaine seems sceptical and unsure of himself.

The wolf from the Saar has stopped his howling.

His often criticised publicity-mindedness may have been moderated by the negative response to his remarks on 26 January.

Perhaps he is a clever tactician who only seemingly serves the interests of his party yet in reality feathers his own nest.

If this is the case then Lafontaine is also a brilliant actor.

It is also conceivable, however, that he still doesn't know what he wants.

In such a situation it is better to act cautiously and avoid the risk of breaking one's neck. Knowing Oskar Lafontaine, however, this is extremely unlikely.

Burkhard von Puppenheim

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 13 February 1987)

Continued from page 3

some nasty accusations to make against the public prosecutors in Bonn "and their superiors. He says a charge which was "unjustified right from the start" has "given the Federal Republic the reputation of being bribable, has forced a minister to resign and has damaged the national and international image of the Federal Republic.".

In order to avoid further party donations scandals a poltical scientist from Tübingen, Theodor Eschenburg, has suggested that political parties should no longer be financed from private sources but by taxpayers' money. In an interview with the economics magazine *Wirtschaftswoche*, Eschenburg said that "similar scandals could occur again and again as long as economic power can be wielded for political gain — whether by industrial associations, big companies or trade unions. "I would prefer to put an end to the private funding of political parties once and for all.

"I'm not saying that I approve of a total financing of parties by the state, but I regard that as the lesser evil," said Eschenburg.

Rudi Kilgus

(Mannheimer Morgen, 18 February 1987)

■ PERSPECTIVE

Devious way to go about selling blueprint

It remains uncertain whether the ongoing inquiry into the sale of submarine blueprints to South Africa will bring any new facts to light. The chances do not look great. But the first inquiry uncovered serious abuses. Its efforts were not in vain.

Admittedly the CDU and the FDP took a different view of the matter right up till the end of the first inquiry. They said "the inquiry was constitutionally dubious, harmful to foreign policy as well as superflous to parliament."

A rather astounding judgement as it contradicted the findings of the committe which was made up of coalition members.

Admittedly the pressure of an impending general election pressurised the government to form an inquiry. The matter refused to fade into the background. As the committee made progress with the matter, the affair came more to the fore.

The committee did not put forward a common report.

A report should have mentioned the strange behaviour of two well known armaments firms which have been in business a long time and know the ins and outs of the trade.

The straight-forward way would have been to apply for a license at the Economics Ministry to export to South Africa.But this did not happen. Instead they put out feelers at the War Ministry and at the Foreign Office. In this way the firms were able to imply that the other departments were in the picture, and and were taking care of things.

Economics minister Martin Bangemann said,"They tried to get a license the same way a seal juggles with a ball."

That was not all. Many government departments were sent details of how it was possible to get around red-tape should a normal export prove impossible.

The firms referred to exporting the documents in diplomatic luggage, engaging a third country and other ways of wiping out tracks so that origin of blueprints or devices could not be proven.

These proceedings come under the jurisdiction of the finance office in Kiel who are initiating proceedings. Many details were left undiscussed at the inquiry.

The question which begs to be answered is: how could reputable firms make such proposals to the government? Had they built up a partnership over the years? Why had nobody categorically forbidden such requests?

During the inquiry it came out that the firms had worked with false names and with codewords. The entire strategy was based on deception. The companies knew that they could not get around embargoes against South Africa. But they might at least be able to get some sort of rear cover from Bonn.

According to what is known they did not manage to get this cover. In the Defence, Foreign and Economics departments the firm were given a firm *no*.

This did not deter them from trying further or from finally making the delivery.

Franz Josef StrauSS and the Chancellor's Office would seem to have been the only sources of temporary hope.Initially Kohl regarded the submarine deal favourably. But he gave no go-ahead and exercised no pressure on the respective authorities to grant a license.

However the attention which he gave the application and the question of whether entire submarines could be delivered was too much. His political antennae should have started vibrating earlier over a deal involving South Africa.

If submarines had been delivered and if it ever came out it would have caused an international scandal.

In the end the government intervened and started proceedings against both firms, of which one is mostly owned by the government. But it was too late to stop the government's reputation being damaged. After all breaking UN regulations is not child's play.

The inquiry threw light onto doubtful, dubious unauthorized activities. Weaknesses in the machinery of government have become visible.

Major mistakes like this can only be prevented if the government applies its own guidelines for weapon export more strictly and if they show the armaments industry that politics has absolute priority.

Otherwise they risk recklessly giving away a piece of foreign policy that would put their own and Germany's reputation at risk.

Heinz Murmann

(Kölner Stadt Anzeiger, Cologne, 19 February 1987)

Continued from page 2

been dropped in the lap of a leading Christian dignitary. German TV officials ought surely to have realised that no-one would be amused in Iran.

In the eighth year of rule by the mullahs firing squads have continued to make this point utterly clear.

Two Bonn diplomats have had to leave Iran and the Goethe Institute in Tehran has been ordered to close. The Federal government, Willy Brandt, the broadcasting authority and Rudi Carrell himself have officially apologised.

But the Iranians are not satisfied. They are still annoyed and still making threatening noises. The Bonn government could afford to view Iranian ire with equanimity were not two Germans being held hostage in Lebanon by Shi'ite extremists who take orders from Tehran.

The Federal government sets great store by Iranian mediation to secure the hostages' release. That is what makes the present crisis so serious. Pacifying the irate mullahs now virtually amounts to raison d'étát.

Where human life is at stake there are limits even to zany humour. "What is satire entitled to do?" Kurt Tucholsky once asked. "Everything," he said.

That may be true in a democracy, but it isn't always right to do what one may happen to be entitled to.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 19 February 1987)

Strategic reasons for South Africa wanting submarines

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Submarines are a classical evasive weapon. They are difficult to see hear or locate. They can enter areas controlled by enemy ships.

Their classical weapon after the mine is the torpedo with which they can fight enemy ships or other submarines. Above all else they carry sensors which can pinpoint the enemy.

The Argentinians had the use of only one during the Falklands war. It was a 209 type called the San Luis and was developed by Gabler a Lübeck engineer, and built at the HDW yard in Kiel.

The British were to learn to their cost how effective they are.

The submarine is a larger version of the one used by the German navy and has been a world success.

Most Latin American navies have it, so do Greece, Turkey and India have it.

It was this submarine model whose blueprints the South Africans were after to build a model of their own.

These submarines range between 1200 and 1500 tons. They can move at 10 knots above water and at 22 below. Thanks to automation the crew is only of 33 men. It can stay 50 days at sea and dive to 200ft.

Many states have licenses to partly build the 209. It is possible in principle to copy its design.

Compared to atomic submarines, diesel ones are slower and have a shorter range. They are also vulnerable when recharging batteries through their snorkels.

They are however much quieter when they run on electricity at slow speeds, or when they lie on the ocean bed.

An absolutely silent submarine is suitable for harbours and narrow straits.

The British, French and Italians keep conventional submarines for that very reason. Their task is to secure the straits of Sicily and Gibraltar and the waters between Greeland, Iceland and Great Britain.

The submarines are recharged on the surface protected by surface vessels against aerial attacks.

Why does South African want this submarine? It would strengthen their coastline defences. They can be used as to patrol the sea. A more interesting reason might be Soviet advances in the third world. Particularly the presence of Soviet weapons and military advisers in the former Portugese colonies of Angola and Mozambique.The Soviets are maintaining a small fleet of about six ships off the west African coast in the gulf of Guinea. About half of them are supply ships. Their primary task is to protect their fishing fleet. Occasionally they can get fuel, fresh fruit and water in Angola.

They are not naval footholds in the usual sense.One could not say that about Sao Tome either.

Moscow would like to have bases in Mozambique or the Seychelles but up til now has not been able to. The Pentagon confirms this in their magazine *Soviet Military Power*.

The Soviets patrol the Murmansk-Cuba-Angola route and back every few weeks with long-distance reconnaissance aircraft.

The Pentagon reported 13 flights of the Bear aircraft in 1985 to Cuba.

The Americans are usually on the western side of the South Atlactic. Sometimes they have manoeuvres with the Brasilians.

The British gave up their base in Simonstown near Cape Town years ago.

Now and then the French show some ships in the Indian ocean along the shipping routes. They have a few ships in Djibouti and Reunion.

The French aircraft carriers and destroyers leave Brest and Toulon for Dakar once a year.The South Atlantic is a geostrategic power-vacuum, although oil tankers travel along the Arabian Gulf past South Africa to Europe.

In a conflict the few Soviet ships there would cause the West some damage.

The number of missiles and torpedos a submarine can take is limited to about 20. Once they have been used, the submarine has to go back to get more.

In the event of greater danger such as an attack from Angola, the Americans are planning to have escorts to protect traffic along the coast.

It is intended to reach from the Brasilian coast to Canary islands or the Azores, where they can join up with submarines of the Nato fleet and the convoys which operate between the Mexican Gulf and Western Europe.

Even if it were possible politically for the West to work together with South Africa, it would be of limited value.

South African is not likely to be able to contribute much if a conflict arose in the sea routes. The few helicopters and speed-boats that it has would be put to better use against guerrillas.

With the 209 it can hardly combat a major Soviet submarine operation or huge missile submarines like the Taifun. Moscow keeps them in the Bering and Ochotski seas protected by the navy.

The South Africans more than likely want to have the submarine to help them out in a conflict with their African neighbours who could try a blockade but whose naval forces are only up to policing.

The South Africans wanted a submarine that could be used with divers and combat swimmers. These type of fighters are more likely to be used against Africans than the Russians.

Front States like Angola and Mozambique have good reason to feel threatened by South African intentions to expand their fleet with submarines.

Siegfried Thielbeer

(Franfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 February 1987)

■ LEISURE BUSINESS

No room for illusion in this make-believe world

Nuremberg's Toy Fair is the most amusing exhibition in the Federal Republic. But no one should be deceived by the dolls in nostalgic dresses and cuddly teddy bears.

For behind the sugary exterior, things are happening in the long-tranquil toy world.

The Americans are moving in. And much of the German industry, comprising small companies with low turnovers, don't like it at all.

An American maker, Toys 'R Us, is using the Nuremberg exhibition to see both exhibitors and buyers.

The Americans operate quite differently from the medium-sized sales companies in Germany.

They do things in style, with great 4,000 square metre chunks of sales areas in major self-service supermarkets on the outskirts of big cities.

The Americans have announced they intend opening six such sales points in West Germany this year.

Where these will be is a closely guarded secret at the German headquarters of Toys 'R Us GmbH in Cologne, opened last November, but it is believed that south of Frankfurt, where there are plenty of people with plenty of money, is one most-favoured area.

The Americans have another iron in the fire as well. Ludwig Kipp, chairman of Massa, a German chain of outlets, confirmed that his company has been in contact with them about leasing them floor space.

Kipp said there would be no joint Massa/Toys sales outlets before October because there would be no surplus Massa space until then.

The West German toy industry is not entirely happy at the arrival of the financially-strong American organisation.

The German industry is made up of small firms. In 1985 more than a half of them had a turnover of only DM300,000. The arrival on the scene of a discount organisation theatens their very existence.

But the industry as a whole has mixed feelings about this development.

Among these are the American giant Hasbro Bradley Inc, a world leader in the industry with 1.3bn dollars turnover last year, and the number two, Mattel, that is well able to defy its giant competitor in the West German market.

Mattel GmbH, Babenhausen, is a market leader with 12 per cent of the West German market and turnover at commercial selling prices estimated to be DM1.7bn.

It is not surprising that these organisations are in favour of large specialised sales outlets for toys. They both believe that the toy shop sector and department stores will be showing a drop in turnover of five per cent by 1990.

The reason for this, according to Mattel, is that their range of products require less actual selling. Their products are marketed with intensive advertising through TV spots and videos, and they are also inexpensive.

The Barbie doll is and will remain Mattel's top seller. Half of its West German turnover is achieved with it.

This year the doll was put on the market as "Diamond Barbie," with jewellery for the doll matching jewellery for the child, partner-look in the toy shop.

Mattel have marketed the "collection" idea, figures and accessories, in their "Masters of the Universe" series excellently.

The story of He-Man on the planet Eternia is told in small magazines that are distributed free-of-charge. This keeps alive the demand for plastic figures from a fantasy world.

There is something new for children who have not been attracted to either "Masters of the Universe" or the girl equivalent, "The Princess of Power," despite all the efforts of the advertising men; the Cowboy of the future from the year 2349 will be appearing on the toy-shop shelves, like the sheriffs of the Wild West keeping law and order in the next century.

Even if the Mattel range and the products from Milton Bradley, the Hasbro subsidiary in Fürth, are not all that cheap, they are suitable as small gifts, which means that they are articles that fit in well for sales in a self-service store.

Manufacturers such as Sigikid H. Scharrer & Koch GmbH, however, whose plush animal figures cost a hundred or so, fear that their products will remain unsold on the shelves or offered cheaply as a "come-on."

Sigikid, based in Mistelbach, has said that it will not supply "Toys 'R Us." The company itself believes that its line of cuddly animals can hold its own against their major competitor, Steiff.

Sigikid's main attraction at this year's Nuremberg Fair is a dark-yellow frog, Quacks, fitted out with satchel, school time-table and exercise-book labels.

He should replace the *Schultüte* (large conical bag of sweets given to children on their first day at school) or be a cuddly little present to smaller members of the family who are empty-handed when their older brothers and sisters go off to school for the first time.

A Sigikid spokesman said that there had been a good reaction to the product.

There was considerable excitement on the stand of Margarete Steiff GmbH. Their latest product has been successful, a range of twelve dolls selling for DM395. A spokesman said that the whole year's production had been sold.

Mannheimer MORGEN

To point up their long experience in the doll business Steiff has produced felt figures of designs from were popular in 1910. The "Gentleman in Frock Coat" and "Tennis-player Betty" will be a hit with doll collectors.

Benno Korbmascher, general manager of the German Toy Industry Association, expressed optimism about the industry's future.

He said that the effects of currency fluctuations would not by so grave as had been expected with the exception of articles made from synthetic materials.

Production increased in the January-September period last year by four per cent to DM1.2bn. There is no knowing how trade will develop in the immediate future.

But the old style toy shop, run by Mom and Dad working below trade union rates and in premises that are already paid for, are in for a difficult time in the future, according to a Mattel spokesman.

Ulla Cramer

(Mannheimer Morgen, 11 February 1987)

The whole family is in with a chance . . *Mensch ärgere dich nicht* in action.
(Photo: Schmidt Spiel + Freizeit)

Board game won spurs in field hospitals of the Great War

A simple board game similar to ludo and called *Mensch ärgere dich nicht*, (Oh, don't get upset) has been played with gusto by German children for 75 years.

On the box in the traditional version of the game there is a drawing of a man wearing a puzzled expression on his face. The directions say that players should place particular emphasis on getting rid of the opponent's men. There are no hints about how to keep cool when one's men are knocked off the board.

The men, looking much like chess pawns, come in different colours for different players and are moved from each player's starting point by the throw of a dice until the end is reached. If, on the way, an opponent's men are overhauled, they are required either to go back to square one or get off the board.

About 55 million copies of the bright-red game have been sold in many countries of the world since it came on the market in 1912.

Today, nearly a million are sold every year, half for export. It is known in the USA as *Sorry*. But the Germans remain the biggest buyers — three quarter of all households have the game.

Some old civilisations believed that dice games disclosed the will of the gods. In German mythology, the gods came together to throw dice. In ancient India, it was thought that the whol world was a dice game of the gods. That was how the word "dyutam", for example came to mean both "quarrel" and "dice game". So is it mere coincidence that one of the national Indian games is stil today a sort of *Mensch ärgere dich nicht* game.

Luck and efficiency have played a role in the 75-year history of *Mensch*. The inventor, Josef Friedrich Schmidt, was a municipal employee in Munich. He thought the game up to entertain his three sons.

In 1905, he made the first game. Three years later, friends, neighbours and relatives were all playing it.

On holidays, Josef Schmidt, according to the family history, could be seen with his fretsaw cutting up water-coloured boards and painting the men.

It got its name in 1912: *Mensch ärgere dich nicht*, and Schmidt opened his own factory in Munich.

But things didn't go well. The business was threatened with ruin because the first world war broke out in 1914 and he was left with thousands of unsold games — selling price: 35 pfennigs.

But then he did something that in retrospect appears to be a stroke of genius — it could also be that it was a purely a humanitarian act, an act of altruism.

He gave 3,000 of them away to be distributed by the Red Cross to war wounded in the field hospitals.

A thank you letter from a nursing sister said: "You can't imagine what joy you have brought to the wounded. The game is played here from morning til evening. They have even run a tournament!"

So that set the foundations for the popularity of the game. It had one good thing going for it — everybody had an equal chance of winning -- which meant it could be played on an equal footing by both adults and children.

In 1920, Schmidt moved into new factory premises. They were destroyed by allied bombing in 1945, but by then the firm was so well established that it meant only a short interruption to production.

In any case, Schmidt had now his eggs in more than one basket: he produced three other board games.

One son, Franz, followed his father into the business before going out on his own in 1936 and becoming the competition.

In 1948, both resumed production, but father Josef died the same year. The business was kept going by his widow, his daughter and his son- in-law. Now the Schmidt family is in the third generation of the business.

In 1970, both strands of the business were amalgamated as Schmidt Spiel + Freiheit GmbH. Today it is the largest German manufacturer of board games.

The firm still bases its success on the original game even though it has widened its product lines enormously.

The Guinness Book of Records records that a game of *Mensch ärgere dich nicht* in July 1983 in Lower Saxony was played for 119 hours and 58 minutes. It notes another game in March 1985 in which four divers played for 34 hours and 12 minutes with an aluminium dice under 3.5 metres (11ft 6in) of water.

And it seems that they played without getting upset, just like the name of the game.

Irene Meichsner

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 31 January 1987)

■ MOTORING

The Opel legend began in a country cowshed

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Before Opel made a name as a car maker, it made sewing machines.

The first one was produced 125 years ago in 1862. News of Opel's 125th anniversary has cause many people to wonder whether it made cars before Carl Benz and Gottlieb Daimler.

Daimler-Benz held celebrations to mark the centenary of the motor car last year.

The first car manufactured by the successors of Adam Opel, however, was assembled in 1899: the *Opel-Patent-Motorwagen, System Lutzmann*.

So its the sewing machine that gets the birthday wishes just one year after the car centenary.

Adam Opel already asked his father back in 1855 whether he could go to Paris to become a mechanic.

Two years later he began his apprenticeship years as an odd-job man in a bakery.

During this period he made up his mind so learn how to build sewing machines and then try to set up his own factory.

No sooner said than done.

Adam Opel found a job in the Journeaux & Leblond sewing manufacturers in Paris and returned to Rüsselsheim in 1862.

Although his father was not keen on the idea Adam Opel, his head full of ideas, set up his factory in his uncle's cow-shed.

His uncle also gave the ambitious mechanic iron bary, files and a drill. It took Opel several months to assemble his first sewing machine.

It worked. His first customer was a local master tailor called Hummel.

His second machine was ready six weeks later. But this time Opel's attempt to sell it in Flörsheim on the other side of the River Main failed miserably.

He was chased out of Flörsheim by angry journeyman tailors, who were worried that his sewing machine would rob them of work.

This didn't stop Opel from setting up his first "proper" factory in 1868.

During a second visit to Paris Adam Opel came across something new: a velocipede.

In 1887 the first Opel penny-farthing was manufactured in the Rüsselsheim factory.

The next step forward for the company was the motor car.

Adam Opel's sons Fritz and Wilhelm discovered to their dismay at the end of the 19th century that the boom era of bicycle production in Germany had passed and that the whole world wanted a motor car.

In 1897 they travelled to the first "Motor Show" in Berlin to see the winner of the Berlin-Potsdam rally, Friedrich Lutzmann from Dessau.

As Carl Benz and Gottlieb Daimler, the main competitors of the Opel brothers, preferred to market their cars on their own Fritz and Wilhelm Opel came to an arrangement with Lutzmann.

The Opel premiere was in 1899. Friedrich Lutzmann's four-wheeler with its four horsepower thrust rolled out of the factory. This was the predecessor model to the over 24 million cars and vans Opel has manufactured so far. After 1901 the company worked together with the Frenchman Darracq, in 1902 the first model designed entirely by Opel itself was launched.

Dieter Zahn

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 10 February 1987)



Economical and quiet . . . Pöhlmann's electric car.
(Photo: Pohlmann)

Hopes for electric car

Erich Pöhlmann, a 54-year-old electrical engineer from Kulmbach, is hoping that a growing awareness of environmental problems will make his new electric car a marketable success.

The car he constructed with the help of the Rheinisch-Westfälische Elekrizitätswerke (RWE) is noiseless and — of course — exhaust-free. The 3.77-metre car, which looks like half an egg, is already more economical than the Golf or Kadett.

There is no need for maintenance work, very little electricity is needed, and the high-grade steel frame and synthetic bodywork ensure that the electric car lasts at least twice as long as a "normal" car.

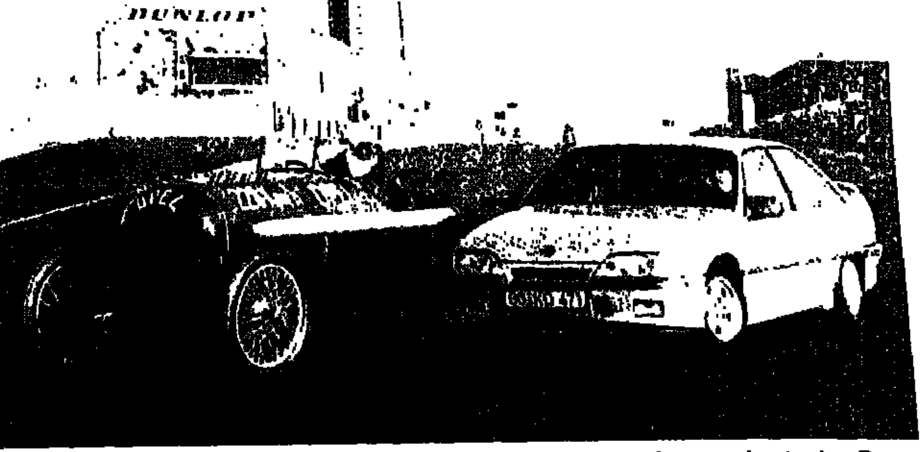
Using lightweight accumulators the electric car may already go into series production in 12 months time. The car can cover a distance of about 160 kilometres without having to be recharged.

The winner of the first Grand Prix for electric vehicles, however, does have one snag: it costs DM78,000.

Even in series production it will still cost twice as much as the average middle-market car.

dpa

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 17 February 1987)



A family affair . . . a 1914 Opel racing car with a 1987 descendent, the Omega 3000.
(Photo: Opel)

Cost is the main argument against hydrogen as a fuel

One day cars will be running on hydrogen instead of petrol or diesel oil. This prediction was made at a meeting in Hamburg.

Hydrogen has both advantages and disadvantages. It can be produced from water using any other type of energy, is easy to store and distribute, and burns with virtually no emission of pollutants.

A major disadvantage is cost. Petrol is much cheaper.

Two companies in the Federal Republic have specialised in the development of hydrogen-powered cars: Daimler-Benz and BMW.

Between 1984 and the end of 1986 both companies allowed customers to test a fleet of 10 test vehicles in Berlin. The results were good.

The biggest drawback of the system is how to store the hydrogen in the vehicles.

For the test vehicles in Berlin — five cars and five vans — hydride containers, tanks filled with metal powder, were used.

The hydrogen streaming in is absorbed by the powder without any major problems caused by high pressure or low temperatures.

When tanking up, however, a tremendous amount of heat is released.

Even with an additional cooling system and a correspondingly complex refueling procedure it takes ten to fifteen minutes to refill at least 80 per cent of the car's storage tank. This corresponds to 11 litres of petrol.

What is more, the hydride tanks are very heavy. Before a hydrogen equivalent of 50 litres of petrol plus tank would weigh roughly one ton.

Hydrogen cars, therefore, would only be competitive in comparison with electric cars with their lead batteries, which would weigh over 20 tons with the same fuel performance.

This is why BMW has been collaborating with the Deutsche Forschungs- und Versuchsanstalt für Luft- und Raumfahrt (DFVLR) since 1978 to develop tanks which can store liquid hydrogen at very low temperatures (minus 250 degrees centigrade).

Tanks have now been developed which allow less than two per cent of the total quantity to escape per day service life.

Once again, in comparison with a tank filled with 50 litres of petrol, this tank now weighs only 80 kilograms (weight of tank plus content in each case).

The storage of hydrogen in its liquid state is essential if this fuel is to be directly injected into the combustion chamber. Although this is not exactly technically easy there are considerable advantages.

Working together with the DFVLR Daimler-Benz is also developing special tanks for liquid hydrogen, since the hydride tanks used in the Berlin test run are only suitable for suburban and short-distance traffic.

The high cost of this form of energy, however, is a major obstacle to the introduction of the hydrogen car on a large scale.

The price would drop if the demand increased.

Furthermore, better hydrogen extraction methods using less electricity and hence less expensive can be expected in future.

Hydrogen will become an interesting alternative when the price of oil goes up or when crude oil at some stage becomes scarce and petrol correspondingly expensive.

The direct price comparison is deceptive.

The fact that hydrogen is less harmful to the environment should also be taken into account.

There are also the additional costs of a catalytic converter for cars which run on petrol.

The competitive disadvantage of hydrogen as a fuel, therefore, is not as great as suggested by a comparison of prices alone.

Rudolf P. Jonas

(Rheinische Post, Dusseldorf, 7 February 1987)

Mercedes 230 tanks up with hydrogen.
(Photo: Mercedes-Benz)

THE MEDIA

A feminist magazine both loved and hated, but never ignored

Alice Schwarzer, controversial publisher of the feminist magazine *Emma*, based in Cologne, has been mocked and even hated.

Forecasts were made that the magazine would never last, but it is now celebrating its 10th anniversary.

The circulation, that started off at 300,000 a week, is now 80,000 but, according to the publisher, it is still the largest feminist magazine in Europe.

In the February issue Alice Schwarzer wrote: "Emma lives even if men worry themselves to death."

Alice Schwarzer is identified with the monthly magazine. The money she earned from her book *Der kleine Unterschied* (The Little Difference) helped bring the magazine into being. She and other women journalists wanted to satisfy their dream of having a magazine of their own.

Sabine Schruff, formerly an *Emma* journalist, recalls that at the beginning it was difficult to get a mention in the media of women's themes, "violence in marriage" for instance, because women's attitudes were subjective and there was no such thing as a women's lobby.

In the interim that has changed, "because in positions where decisions are made there are now women with plenty of self-confidence."

The first edition of *Emma* was quickly sold out. Other journalists took notice. C.H.Meyer in the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* described *Emma's* concept of the



Publisher Schwarzer . . . little differences, big differences. (Photo: Poly-Press)

enemy was "King Kong with a penis like the Empire State Building."

There were soon quarrels among the *Emma* staff themselves. Attacks from outside the magazine, however, gave it wide publicity.

This probably happened because at the beginning many *Emma* women journalists admired Alice Schwarzer too much. Sabine Schruff said that "the cocky, extremely brave, witty woman had dared to do what she had spoken of openly and bluntly — rap men over the knuckles."

Then they saw that Alice Schwarzer was also only human, who, according to a former women colleague, enjoyed being to the fore.

Many women writers hoped for an oasis of affectionate solidarity in the *Emma* project, devoid of competition of the male kind.

That was a pipe-dream from the start.

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

From the very beginning of the magazine too few women journalists had to do too much.

Today the staff is made up of "five *and a half,*" *and all are paid according to* union rates.

They not only have to do the routine work but also attend to the social welfare side of the magazine. Women from all over the Federal Republic look to *Emma* for assistance.

Disappointed former women staff members blacken their idol's reputation, Alice Schwarzer.

The house cartoonist, Franziska Becker, has used some of the criticisms made of Alice Schwarzer in a comic strip, "The Truth about Alice," that appeared in the jubilee edition of the magazine.

One cartoon shows Alice, baring her teeth, swinging a whip over figures cowering with bowed heads, saying: "Anyone who doesn't use the expression male domination at least 20 times is fired."

One former staff member said that as the boss she was just as authoritarian as any man. She pressed her style on her subordinates mercilessly.

Conditions at *Emma* were "early capitalism," according to one former employee.

Alice Schwarzer complains: "We women have changed old attitudes, but we have not created new ones. We are still subject to the law of the jungle."

Ingrid Strobl, eight years with *Emma* and now a free-lance writer, said: "Many of the free-lance women who worked on the magazine and who let off steam against Alice, were unknown to the magazine's editors." Many were offended beceue Alice Schwarzer rejected a poorly written article.

Her name used to be a clichée for frustrated women's libbers, now it is synonymous with "the lousy Emma editor," and it was quickly known to all.

In 1971 she objected strongly to an article in *Stern* magazine in which 374 confessed that they had had abortions.

After a reading of the bestseller *Der kleine Unterschied* (1975) women should have kicked out their husbands in droves; husbands and lovers were described as egoistic and incapable of tenderness.

In the latest edition of *Emma* husbands and lovers do not come off any better, not even the new generation of men with their "breast envy.".

Ingrid Strobl said of gentle men: "You must not become cuddly little men, who cling to the strong woman's apron strings. Self-initiative, independence, a sense of responsibility and erotic experiences, yes, dear Sirs, erotic experiences, are what we ask for."

That does not sound like men-hating and anti-pleasure.

Accusations of prudery were made against Alice Schwarzer and *Emmma* in 1978. Alice and nine other women, including actress Inge Meysell, complained against *Stern*. They wanted to put a stop to the cover pictures which presented women as "asexual objects," but the complaint came to nothing.

A year or so later *Emma* cancelled a naked breast on the cover and showed naked men.

One reader complained that there was no emancipation of the sexes when there was a revesal of positions with a female photographer taking pictures of naked men.

Another wrote: "I found the naked men wonderful, appetising and exciting." The women readship is very di-

Continued on page 12

Entertainer Rosenthal . . . outwitted the Nazis. (Photo: Kindermann)

Death of 'the next-door neighbour' TV showman

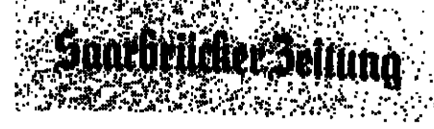
The news of the death of television showmaster Hans Rosenthal came as no surprise. Those who saw him in Vienna in January, where he was honoured with the Golden Insignia by the Austrian capital, saw that he was a sick man and that his days were numbered.

Television followed his last days closely, supported by daily bulletins published by popular newspaper *Bild-Zeitung*.

Although all this intrusion into the family's grief was vulgar in the extreme it did show that Rosenthal was something more than just a show-master, a TV entertainer.

His 90-minute show *Dalli Dalli*, screened more than 150 times during the past 20 years, was one of the most sucessful productions in West German television. His popularity indicated that his audience regarded him as one of themselves. He was like a neighbour.

People believed they could chat about things with him, put their trust in



him, according to Peter Garlach, one-time head of entertainment in the Second Television Channel.

This image of Rosenthal as "the next-door neighbour" was underlined when he was chosen the most popular German show-master in 1977.

Hans Rosenthal knew of the influence he had. He was simple, uncomplicated, direct, friendly and not a know-all — characteristics of his show.

These qualities were the basis of the approval, affection and popularity shown him.

Rosenthal was responsible for a whole series of radio and television quizz shows: *Gut gefragt ist halb gewonnen, Kleine Leute — große Klasse, Allein gegen alle, Spaß mußt sein*, and *Bitte zur Kasse*.

He was head of entertainment for RIAS Berlin for 30 years. His inexhaustible play instinct always gave birth to new ideas. He aleady had a successor to *Dalli, Dalli* on the stocks — it was to be called *Pinke, Pinke*.

Even when his critics called his performances the "Apotheosis of snug entertainment," (the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*," and *Rosenthal himself* as a mixture of "petty bourgeois bonhomie" he was, next to Peter Frankenfeld, the most popular personality on German television.

Rosenthal said of himself quite frankly: "I'm not a star. I'm like my viewers."

He did not make much of his private life or of his way up to the top.

He was born in Berlin in 1925, the son of a Jewish bank clerk. At 15 he was orphaned and had to find work.

His brother was murdered in the Riga concentration camp, but he managed to get away from the camp and found his way back to Berlin where he was given refuge in a garden shed by two Berlin women who hid him until the end of the war.

In his memoirs *Zwei Leben in Deutschland*, published in 1980, he wrote of these hard years without bitterness. It was a book of cheerful reconciliation.

But he never forgot these times. Although he never allowed politics to intrude into his shows, he was a political person and for many years on the board of directors of the Central Jewish Council in Germany.

In an interview with this newspaper he once said: "If democracy were ever endangered, I would use the television screen to defend it."

In his autobiography he said: "I'd be attracted to a political job. Not out of a craving for admiration, envy of political personalities or even desire for power, but to fight for toleration, religious, political and between people. I know that sounds a little pathetic but I can't say it any other way, because that's the way it is."

That's the way it is...The dependable was his métier, not change.

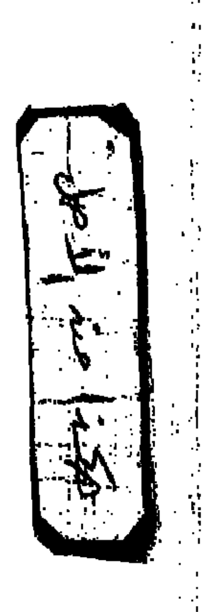
He left others to pioneer new paths in television. He himself built up his career on safe ground.

The regularity with which Hans Rosenthal appeared before his television audience, the ritual of goodness that never changed, that found its expression in the phrase, "That's tops," were the secrets of his long-lived success.

There will be no successor to *Dalli Dalli* because no-one else could present it.

Michael Beckert

(Saarbrücker Zeitung, 11 February 1987)



EDUCATION

Lofty ambitions for first private business college

Professor Klaus Evard still runs in marathon races at the age of 50 without being an also ran. His endurance is not confined to the roads, however: he needed lots of stamina to set up the first private business college in the Federal Republic.

He was born in 1936 and qualified as a lecturer at the Sorbonne. In 1968 he helped set up the first European Business School (EBS) in Paris. Two years later he set up a similar private European Business School in Offenbach.



Klaus Evard . . . still running. (Photo: Lutz Kleinhans)

He had little money and plenty of difficulties. In 1971 only four students registered for the Offenbach venture.

The major hurdle was the Hesse Education Ministry in Wiesbaden. The then Minister, Ludwig von Friedeburg, strongly opposed the idea of a private business college. He refused official sanction and recognition of it. Evard went to court.

The legal battle lasted five years. At the end of 1975 he won on his third appeal. He not only had the way clear before him for the EBS but he had won the

Frankfurter Allgemeine

right to apply for subsidies. Wiesbaden paid. The student body grew. The Offenbach European Business School was on its way.

The basic educational idea obviously met a public demand. The student body has now reach 500 strong. There were almost 3,000 applicants for the last winter semester.

Industry has shown an interest in the School's graduates and many students sign employment contracts while still studying.

There are a whole range of reasons why the European Business School enjoys a high reputation in industry, according to Professor Evard, a man of considerable self-confidence.

One is that teaching is geared to the practical. The aim of the study courses is not "economic theory" but the application of the theoretical in practice.

A good third of the teaching body — 12 full-time professors and about 85 part-time lecturers — has practical experience in the application of economic theories.

Another point is that students' studies prepare them to deal with economics at an international level.

Every student has to do two semesters abroad, one in the European Business School in France or Spain and another at the European Business School either in London or in the partner school in Phoenix, Arizona.

During these semesters students are expected to brush up their knowledge of French and English.

Teaching is clear, students work in small groups and studies are limited to eight semesters. Participants are obliged to attend lectures and tutorials — 30 hours a week.

When the EBS is described as a cadet school Evard takes this more as a compliment than as criticism.

Ready for a new life as a Japanese school . . . Holdheim hospital. (Photo: City of Bremen)

The operating company, located since 1980 in Reichartshausen Castle in the Rheingau, is a public limited company with two shareholders.

One is Professor Evard, holding 26 per cent of the equity, and the other, since 1985, a private foundation which Siemens set up with a "an acceptable sum of money."

The European Business School is proud to be "in a good state of health." Students have to pay DM8,000 a year fees with 15 per cent of the college places free. Subsidies account for 25 per cent of the annual budget.

Financing, then, is solid and well arranged, and the high reputation the EBS has in industry makes it possible to expand.

Professor Evard, a wine connoisseur, is ambitious and he has plenty of ideas for Reichartshausen Castle.

He wants to develop it into a polytechnic and economics college, licensed to offer qualifications for university lecturers and doctorates.

But Evard will need all the stamina he showed in New York marathons in trying to achieve this.

Hesse university legislation envisages private specialist establishments of higher education but not private universities as such.

Horst Dohm

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 January 1987)

Japanese to set up a school in Bremen

A Japanese boarding school is to be established in Bremen in April 1988. It is to be financed by Japanese industry and by fees.

There are more than 15,000 Japanese in Germany. There are only three Japanese schools in Europe, one in France and three in Britain, and they are so overcrowded that many Japanese children in Europe have to be sent back to boarding school in Japan.

Bremen Mayor Klaus Wedemeier said the school would both improve Bremen's image and have long-term economic advantages.

The school would have some influence on where Japanese industry decided to locate.

The school will be operated by the private Shumei Gakuen Gymnasium Group.

Shunji Imoto, director of the group, said that the Japanese put great value on education. Over 90 per cent of Japanese schoolboys and girls took a school leaving certificate equivalent to the German *Abitur*, the university entrance qualification.

It is no accident that the choice fell on Bremen. Hartmut Schmädeke, head of the Bremen economic promotion unit, made the proposal for the school. He paid out DM300,000 for a study to discover if Bremen was a suitable location for such a school.

The study revealed that Bremen as an industrial centre was already regarded favourably by Japanese industrial executives.

Mayor Wedemeier said that the school would be set up in what is now the Holdheim Hospital in the Oberneuland district of Bremen.

In the course of this year the hospital will be run down. Then the buildings will be renovated and converted. The school will open its doors in April next year.

It will at first take in about 350 school children. Later capacities will be extended to accommodate 1,200. Children of all nationalities will be accepted by the school.

Mayor Wedemeier said that the Holdheim buildings were owned by the Bremen city authorities and that a long-term leasing agreement had been concluded with Shumei Gakuen Gymnasium Group.

(Nordwest Zeitung, Oldenburg, 12 February 1987)

Goethe Institute in bid to promote German

The Goethe Institute has mounted a worldwide campaign to counter the declining interest in the German language. Only Spain, since it joined the European Community, has shown increased interest in German.

Advertisements have been appearing in Japanese medical journals telling readers that with German they would have their "fingers closer to the pulse."

In France hundreds of advertising kits with information have been distributed.

In Holland a group of 30 students, teachers and university lecturers have got together to provide their Dutch colleagues with new ideas for the teaching of German.

Since 1975 the number of Dutch schoolchildren in general education schools who have taken German has increased by 15 per cent. In night schools there has been a 48 per cent in the number of people studying German.

The Foreign Office, under whose aegis the Munich-based Institute operates promoting German language and culture abroad, has provided two million marks annually in special funds for the campaign.

Newspaper, radio and television advertising is being used.

The message is that it is not so difficult to learn German and so gain access to an important culture. Knowing German can also have professional advantages.

Goethe Institute secretary-general Horst Harnischfeger said that because so many prejudices had been built up against the language it was neccesary to find new reasons why people should learn it.

The Goethe Institute has chosen various ways of doing this. For instance, in schools where German was a voluntary subject and where fewer schoolboys and girls have taken it up, the children and their parents will be contacted. Teachers and education officials who are decision-makers will be provided with information material about the language.

Special open days and German Days will be organised to present both language and country.

Soon a 26-part television language-course and a computer reading-course will be ready.

Approximately 80,000 people have enrolled for German language-courses in the last year at the 138 Institutes and eleven subsidiaries operating in 67 countries.

A further 20,000 have taken part in language-courses that end with a diploma provided in the 16 Goethe Institutes in the Federal Republic itself.

In cooperation with various ministries and partner organisations 1,500 events have been organised in 52 countries to promote the training and further education of 77,000 teachers of German abroad.

Every year about 1,000 foreign teachers of German are invited to seminars lasting several weeks dealing with German language and culture at centres in Munich, Göttingen, Rothenburg and, more recently, Bonn.

Karl Stankiewitz

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 15 January 1987)

■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Cost of cleanliness: damage to something somewhere, in spite of the denials

NÜRNBERGER Nachrichten

The detrimental effects of domestic cleaning agents have been known since the 1960s. But the authorities were slow to act. Nothing happened until mountains of suds built up on the country's waterways.

Phosphate was identified as the culprit, and manufacturers had to come up with substitutes.

The public wanted products that did not pollute. Makers took advantage of the new mood by stressing the new non-pollutant ingredients of their products.

Consumers bought the products in the belief that they were environmentally safe. In fact, other ingredients in these "safe" products were just as harmful as ever.

Since then there has been more extensive testing to determine what ingredients are harmful and which are not.

A good two million tons of cleaning liquid and washing up powder ends up in waterways throughout the country.

Many of these products are not only dangerous to use but of questionable domestic benefit anyway.

A consumer magazine's findings showed that between 1980 and 1984 at four poison advice centres there were 594 cases of poisoning. Many were nearly fatal.

Products containing hypochlorite -a salt or ester- which were used with an acidic product gave off deadly chlorine gas.

Manufacturers promised in 1985 to print warnings and to use neutralising additives to reduce gas formation. But cases of poisoning were still being reported that year.

The ironic thing about using such chemicals is that they are not necessary for domestic cleanliness.

Professor Harald Irmer, of the German Ministry of Health, said, "It is not necessary to disinfect one's home for it to be hygienic.

"It is somewhat pointless because within a few hours the bacteria are back again anyway. There is no point in constantly cleaning the toilet while the toilet seat, which is continually coming into contact with naked skin, does not even get the occasional wipe."

At least when it comes to cleaning agents scientists have come up with some useful alternatives.

A group around the Ecological Institute of Freiburg have produced a guide to the use of chemicals in the home. They recommend an optimal cleaning programme with four indispensible agents.

They recommend the use of a special soft soap, a rinsing agent or an all-purpose cleaner in the kitchen, bath, lavatory and on tiles. For particularly stubborn surfaces they a scouring powder will do.

Vinegar is also useful. It takes care of calcium deposits, chrom-nickel surfaces, pots and fittings. Windows and mirrors are well served by methylated spirits.

The fat and dirt removers in traditional cleaning agents are for the most part made up of synthetic emulsions. And these can be easily replaced by other substances.

Traditional cleansers weaken the surface-tension of water and are poisonous to fish. And that is why the other alternatives are recommended. Soap and scouring powder are less harmful. Scouring powder for instance is made up mostly of quartz sand. And soft soap is made out of natural substances.

If you want to get rid of smells then they recommend simply airing the room. Fresheners contain paradichlorbenzol and that counts as special waste.

When it comes to pipe blockage, prevention is better than the chemical cure. A rubbish bin should be used for rubbish, not the plumbing system. Washing powder however is not so easily taken care of. More than 1.6 million tons are produced annually containing a range of different contents.

Between 1960 and 1980 the production of synthetic washing and cleansing agents quadrupled.

Full wash agents along with other chemicals such as softeners and bleachers contain up to 30 per cent fillers which make the wash more manageable.

Even if phosphate was dispensed with altogether there would be still problems. If the washing agent could be broken down biologically by 90 per cent no one knows for sure if the resulting products are damaging or not. Some chemicals end up in agricultural dung and may be entering into the food chain.

The claims made for alternative full-wash agents are deceiving. A consumer magazine found them either to be of marginal benefit or simply worse than ordinary ones.

Getting results

Those who take the trouble of using fewer white sheets and use a standardised unit can get better results. The softener can be applied separately and one needs fewer emulsions.

For the ordinary consumer washing a normal wash, he or she can get excellent results with fine-powder agents. They usually do not contain any bleaches or visual whiteners and are usually applied in small doses.

In reality there is no cleaner which does not cause damage somewhere along the line. There are merely compromises which try to achieve cleanliness with the least amount of damage. And despite whatever claims are made for products the reality is that conservation is unlikely to be possible without sacrificing comforts of some kind.

Dieter Schwab

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 11 February 1987)

Continued from page 10

verse, according to Sabine Schruff, but they all have one thing in common, "a widely-felt discomfort," which they find grippingly expressed in *Emma*.

Alice Schwarzer puts her colleagues and herself under obligation to pursue a definite route — radical feminism.

She said: "We reject all ideas of discrimination — it doesn't matter if this is done in the name of sex, class or race."

It goes without saying that *Emma* is always harping on the terrorism of male domination, in National Socialism, in Nicaragua, in South Africa, in political parties and the freedom movement.

The magazine highlights the conditions of charwomen, prostitutes, women social workers and artists, and women who work for the postal service.

The presentation is often ironic, sometimes fanciful to the extent of almost making heroines out of these people, sometimes insulting.

A particular favourite is to present portraits of strong women with the intention of encouraging women readers to find their own feet.

Emma has crudely knocked women groups who claim to have discovered "the new motherhood." The magazine draws a picture of a screaming child lying on a woman's lap, a moaning child at a women's skirts and never daring to complain a word in the company of others.

Emma has undoubtedly taken up any number of themes such as the sexual abuse of children and the tall story of the "natural" peacefulness of women. The magazine is a crusading publication, according to Schwarzer, but its attitudes are deliberate, distanced and with an embarrassingly narrow outlook.

People whose thoughts run to dogma have no room for reflection and the development of ideas.

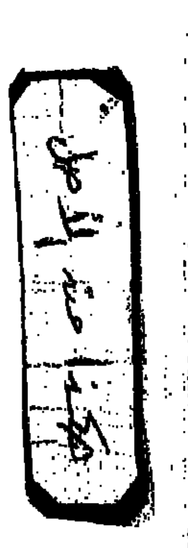
Every issue of *Emma* has included one theme, the abolition of Paragraph 218 dealing with abortion, now bogged down in a constitutional dispute.

Anyone who takes up a viewpoint different to Alice Schwarzer, such as the Cathoilic journalist Franz Alt, has let himself become warped with "religious delusion" and "abuse of press freedom."

Until now it has been helpful for women to have a "shrill advocate," Sabine Schruff believes. But she also believes that the magazine's attitudes towards male domination are very much like those of a church magazine.

Ulrike Walden

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 12 February 1987)



Recycling is the basis of this stinking job

Wiltrud Buchs is the only rubbish adviser in Germany. Her place of work is in the stench of a rubbish dump in Miesbach, in upper Bavaria.

She was hired by the local authority one and a half years ago when a new system was waste disposal was being introduced.

The system involves recycling everything that can be recycled and disposing of everything else in as harmless a manner as possible.

It relies on people bringing their rubbish rather than leaving it to be collected. That meant getting public cooperation, which in turn meant letting it know what was happening. So a brochure was distributed to all households.

In the Miesbach area, it is estimated that 800 pounds of waste per head a year used to be collected. Now a lot of that is separated in the home and brought to the individual waste containers in the streets: glass, paper, metal and synthetic materials.

According to an Emnid survey, the public reaction has been positive. It says 87 per cent of the population of 82,000 cooperates by separating their rubbish and taking it to the individual containers.

In this area, the system works best with scrap metal; an estimated 87 per cent of what is brought in can be sold. About 30 per cent of the paper is recycled to 47 organisations for processing. There is a heavy demand.

Glass is sold to a glassworks, a paper factory takes the paper at a cheap price, old tyres are bought by a brickworks for its furnaces.



Wiltrud Buchs at work. (Photo: Petra Schramek)

Synthetic substances like plastic have been less successful. In the area, 22 firms work with synthetics and, after Frau Buchs persuaded them to bring their waste in to be recycled to a recycling firm, the firm went broke because the cheapness of oil was making the cost of plastic cheap and recycling no longer financially feasible.

Anyone who has a query about their rubbish can get advice from Frau Buchs simply by telephoning her. She gets some surprises: pounds of black powder, arsenic and cyanide, for example. They are taken away to specialist detoxification centres.

So, is the system working? Is the area cleaner? Fewer fines have been imposed on people for dumping rubbish in fields and forests and parks and other places where it shouldn't be dumped. Fines of between 100 marks and 200 marks have been introduced to deter people from using the specialised containers for household rubbish. There are occasional cases, for example, of dirty disposable nappied being dumped in containers for old paper.

The system costs 150,000 marks a year more than the old, traditional system.

Frau Buchs says that there are always setbacks. But the most important thing was that people accepted her. She says they don't regard her with the same inhibitions they might regard a normal government department. She is more someone who is there to help them.

Rolf Henkel

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 13 February 1987)

■ MEDICINE

Daniel, 4, died beneath icy waters — and lived to tell the tale

Süddeutsche Zeitung

The case of four-year-old Daniel will go down in medical history: he spent 35 minutes under water after falling through the iced-over surface — and has lived to tell the tale.

He was clinically dead after being pulled out of the Steinhuder lake in Lower Saxony just before Christmas.

Doctors could not detect any brain activity, heartbeat or circulation. His body temperature was an extremely low 19.5 degrees celsius. His metabolism was only operating at 10 per cent of its capacity.

This actually helped the organs to survive. Above all the brain which cannot last more than five minutes without oxygen.

The boy was saved by a technique not beyond the means of a small hospital and the knowledge that even after many hours it is still possible to resuscitate people, particularly children.

This is how the medical college of Hanover described events.

While on the way to the hospital a hose was inserted into Daniel's windpipe and artificial respiration was started. Leaving his head free his body was wrapped in aluminium foil and then in a blanket.

Infusion bottles with a solution at 37 degrees celsius were then placed around the body.

This helped to slowly warm up the body and to restore the electrolyte metabolism.

The doctors had be careful not to heat up the body too quickly, otherwise the brain might have been damaged. Earlier attempts to warm up people in bathwater had been unsuccessful.

Having ended the loss of body heat they tried to reach the heart with chemicals through the veins.

But they were thwarted by the bodies natural safety system which had contracted them.

But luckily enough they knew that behind the collar bone there is a large receptacle into which they were able to insert a pipe and pump medicine to the heart.

It was then necessary to avoid over stimulating the brain.

So they gave Daniel barbiturates to keep him on a low key to counteract the kick which adrenalin was giving to the heart.

When his body stopped breathing it began accumulating quantities of acids which were handicapping all functions. To neutralise this they gave him sodium bicarbonat. Regular blood analyses showed whether there was enough electrolyte available — salts from calcium and sodium — whose concentration governs the functioning of cells. After about 20 minutes the heart and lung resuscitation started to show results. The heart began to beat faintly. Doctors gave a dose of calcium to support the heart. The heart began registering 40 to 50 beat a minute which for a child is much too slow. But then circulation and metabolism improved. The boy's pupils contracted and his brain came back to life. It was then possible to see the blood as it started moving through the arteries.

This showed that the respiratory system was working again. This was confirmed by a blood analysis.

His body temperature was 23 degrees Celsius at first but when he woke up the next day, it had risen to 34 degrees. But it was still cold enough for his to say: "I'm very cold."

That showed that his brain was on the way to making a complete recovery. And that is, in fact, what has happened.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 16 February 1987)

Sharp note

A Frankfurt hospital is now letting patients listen to stereo music while undergoing operations with local anaesthetic. They can bring their own cassette or choose from the hospital's range of classical or pop songs. (Photo: anw)

Publicity campaign urged to cut rate of heart disease

The European Arteriosclerosis Society wants Western governments to help in public-education campaigns to cut the rate of heart and circulatory diseases, the top killers in industrialised nations.

Every year 135,000 West Germans die of heart attacks and angina. Many are aged between 30 and 50. Thousands of deaths could be prevented if people ate properly.

The society, which is made up of doctors and nutritionists from 19 countries including East Germany, is calling on governments, the media and food manufacturers to join in a concerted effort to enlighten the public on how to keep down risks.This could be done on television, schools or centres for adult education.

A two-part plan has been developed to deal with the problems caused by smoking, obesity, lack of exercise, high blood pressure and excessive blood fats.

Their first objective is to reach the public. They want them to simply stop smoking and eating foods with a high fatty acid and cholesterol content.

More than half the population has too much cholesterol at about 200 milligrams per decilitres of blood. This is enough to cause an attack. Food-fats account for the cholesterol of about a tenth of these people.

The experts recommend that food be limited to 30 per cent fat content and fatty acids, usually of animal origin, to be limited to a tenth of the intake.

As a replacement they recommend the use of simple and unsaturated fatty acids of oils and linoleic acid. And one can enrich one's diet by using with fruit, vegetables, leguminious plants and grain products.

The second half of their strategy is aimed at those on the edge of attacks and hardening of the arteries. They include smokers, the overweight, diabetics and those with high blood pressure and high fat-levels.

Hannoversche Allgemeine

The society is appealing to all doctors to take a more serious look at patients' disposition to such diseases.

They could point out to blood pressure patients that the natural salt content of food covers their needs. The society wants the EEC to pull together on the issue. They hope to see legislation forcing food manufacturers promote healthier food and to label products with fat levels.

Dieter Dietrich

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 5 February 1987)

■ ESPIONAGE

Stolen Western technology pushes East Bloc into the computer age

NÜRNBERGER Nachrichten

Industrial espionage costs West Germany an estimated five billion marks a year. Careless security in many firms contributes.

Erik Mielke, the Minister responsible for the East Berlin secret services, used the columns of the party newspaper, *Neues Deutschland*, to praise the "selfless and clever work of the emissaries and patriots of the invisible front" and their "courageous and sacrificial operations".

Herr Mielke will have to make do without 32 of his patriots for a while. They are guests of the Bonn government. In jail.

The arrests, however, are no reason for complacency in the West and counter-espionage experts reckon on a new offensive by their colleagues in the East.

The aim is to transfer technology from West to East. Engineers and technicians are increasingly joining the ranks of East German agents to push the country's efforts in high technology.

Planning reports in the East indicate the importance of technological advancement. East Berlin refers to achieving productivity growth rates of 3.5 per cent over the next year by bringing into operation 19,000 computerised production systems and 14,700 industrial robots.

Last year, Soviet party chief Mikhail Gorbachov called information technology the "catalysator of progress." Plans to turn the Soviet Union into a "strong and rich state" (Gorbachov's words) by the turn of the century will surely be impossible without software and hardware from the West.

So data-processing and electronic technologies are at the top of the East Bloc's list. Because the information is often so complex, employees of high-tech firms are the targets of recruiting by agents from the East. Target firms include data-processor makers, electronics firms and software producers.

Some recent cases:

- A 46-year-old engineer was jailed for two years and four months for selling the Soviets information and technological equipment worth nearly half a million marks over a four-year period.
- A worker in Stuttgart was sentenced for giving magnetic computer tapes containing plans of building components to the East Berlin Ministry for State Security. The material would then have been passed on to the Sektor Wissenschaft und Technik (department of science and technology) where, according to a defector, 200 scientists would assess it.
- A department head at Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB), Manfred Rotsch, was jailed on charges of working for the KGB for 30 years, during which time he handed over details of the Tornado all-weather fighter-bomber project plus information about satellite programmes.

Although the information most sought after is the most sophisticated technology, there is also a demand for more modest knowhow used as a matter of course in many firms. The aim here is to reduce the lead of the West, a lead which varies between about two and six years, depending on the field.

It is estimated that about 90 per cent of the development of computer technology in the East Bloc is because of stolen information from the West, mainly information about American computers.

Many firms make it easier for information to be stolen. Some incredible cases of carelessness have come to light. There have many occurrences of floppy discs, print-out ribbons and magnetic tapes finding their way intact into wastepaper baskets.

Photocopy restrictions are ignored and cleaning staff are often left free to ferret around undisturbed after everyone else has gone for the day.

Many firms and their managers regard security as an annoying, if necessary evil. A survey of security officers in 100 firms revealed that 93 per cent regarded their own firm's security as too careless.

Stricter security, after all, can be a disadvantage for firms whose business involves technology transfer to the East Bloc.

At least one industrial spokesman says industry wants to be able to export unhindered to the East Bloc.

Little more than lip service is often paid to security officers' recommendations. Dr Karlhans Liebl, of the criminal research group of the Max Planck Institute, says many firms and their managers need to take a more positive attitude towards security. His investigations has revealed the most blatant cases of lax security in fast-expanding smalland middle-sized firms.

Simple steps can help to tighten-up security:

- Every job contract should have a secrecy clause and a clause prohibiting removal of information from the premises.
- So few people as possible should have access to sensitive material.
- Material no longer needed should be shredded.

Long-term process

Industrial espionage tends not only to hit the victim country. It also hits the workers directly by putting the East in a better position to compete.

But nevertheless, it is a long-term process. That can be seen from the way the job of stealing secrets is arranged. Engineers and technicians are naturally hired but a lot more students are now being approached.

One arrested East Berlin agent said he had posed as the representative of a Swiss economic research institute and paid one student between 200 and 300 marks a month for papers prepared by him on the ostensible grounds of wanting to see the views of a young scientist. The real dividends would come much later.

In such a case, after qualification, the agent helps the student find a "suitable" job. Only much later he reveals, usually bluntly, his role as an agent.

He then points out that his informant has for years been a spy under the definition of Paragraph 99 of the penal code. Informants who bow to the blackmail are driven even deeper into the mire.

But getting out instead of submitting to blackmail does pay, as the leniency of sentences in such cases shows.

One Marburg businessman was fined a mere 1,500 marks. He gave himself up after developing a guilty conscience when he was told to recruit a befriended student of genetic research.

Horst Biallo

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 3 February 1987)



What game is he playing now? ... Markus Wolf. (Photo: Poly-Press)

Mystery surrounds 'retirement' of East Berlin spymaster

Nothing worse could have happened to John Le Carré's spymaster, George Smiley, than to suddenly lose his arch opponent, Karla. It would have left him working against a vacuum.

Yet this is what has happened to West Germany's equivalents of Smiley: Markus Wolf, East Berlin's top spy, has suddenly gone into retirement. No one — on this side of the iron curtain anyway — knows quite why.

Wolf, 64, had for 30 years been the head of the foreign information section of East Berlin's *Staatssicherheitsdienst*, (security service). The East Berlin newsagency, ADN, said he had called it a day at "his own wish."

"Mischa" Wolf had become the longest-serving spy boss in Europe, the ace of the industry. He was born in Hechingen, in Baden-Württemberg, the son of a communist writer and a doctor and was a convinced communist himself from an early age. He fled from the Nazis, first to France and then to the Soviet Union, where he went to the Karl Liebknecht school in Moscow and later to a Comintern school.

Later he studied aero engineering in Moscow and then trained as a broadcaster. In 1945 he returned to Germany to do his duty for the party in the first days after the war and took part in the development of Berlin radio.

As a special correspondent under the pseudonym of Michael Storm, he reported the Nuremberg war-crimes trials. He is thought not to have been in the West since.

Then he began to place spies. His greatest success was landing one right at the top — the case of Günter Guillaume brought down Chancellor Willy Brandt in 1974. Guillaume had worked his way up the ranks and into a job in the Chancellor's Office, where he worked directly with the Chancellor himself. He is now living in retirement in East Germany, where he was sent in an exchange deal.

For this effort, Wolf received the highest decoration East Germany has, the Karl Marx Order.

In 1985 when the balloon went up and a series of East Berlin agents were arrested, Wolf managed to get out Hansjoachim Tiedge, his man who was third in charge at the West German *Verfassungschutz*, the Office for the Protection of the Constitution. Tiedge had been under suspicion for some time. He had built up heavy debts and was an alcoholic. But he got away.

Another one to get away that year was Margaret Hoke, who was hired by Wolf. She had worked her way into the inner office of the Bonn President.

Wolf directed the operations of between 3,000 and 4,000 agents in the West with the precision of a chess player. This even won him some respect in the West. One Western newspaper described him as "highly intelligent and cultured, quick-witted and fascinating."

According to one spy arrested in 1969, Wolf had no hesitation about acting on ideas even if they were not officially approved, he wore well-cut suits and was not without humour. "You could have a good belly laugh with him," he said.

Just like it is in the spy books, the man who directed the spies and hunted other people's spies was also hunted himself. He used to be known as The Man Without a Face — until 1978, when a Western agent managed for the first time to photograph him. It happened in Stockholm, where Wolf wanted to meet with an informant from the West. Showing your face in this business is a quick way of coming unstuck.

The same year, Wolf received another setback when one of his best agent controllers, Werner Stiller, went to the West and handed over a list of East German agents.

In 1982 he appeared apparently quite spontaneously in public: at the burial of his brother, Konrad, the long-time head of the East German academy of arts. Photographs of him went all over the Western world.

It is not known if this was a mistake which has caused him to be pulled out of his job and therefore also out of the line of succession to the next step up: that of the Minister in charge of the security, a job filled by Erich Mielke, who is almost 80.

Some insiders think Wolf lost his post as part of a huge shake-up of East Bloc security forces which began with important changes in Moscow.

Others think he might be ill, although the latest photographs of him to reach the West reveal no evidence of this.

Yet another theory is that he is out of favour personally. A year ago, at the East Berlin party conference, he was not even on the list of nominations for the central committee. Usually, the

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■ DISASTERS

The night the ocean broke through Hamburg's dykes

Flood waters broke through the dykes protecting the lowlands behind the Elbe River 25 years ago last month. Record water levels flooded vast areas west of the river.

In Hamburg 315 people died. Including coastal casualties, the total was 347. Thousands were made homeless.

Hurricane-force winds from the north-west were preventing the tide from going out at the Elbe estuary, and then entered a factor no one had reckoned with — waves from the Atlantic. These raised the waters a metre on the coast at Cuxhaven.

The night of 16 February was a filthy night and police and fire brigade were stretched to their limit even before the dykes broke. More than 2,000 calls were logged.

But by the time the realisation began to dawn that this might be more than just another storm, most people in the potential danger area had gone to bed.

It was midnight before it was calculated that the rate of increase in water level would almost certainly mean a major flood.

In 1825, Hamburg had had its Flood of the Century when the water reached 5.24 metres above sea level. This time it reached 5.70 metres and remained there for more than three hours.

Still Hamburg slept. Not until 20.33 hours were people warned by radio of "very serious storm flooding." This warning was repeated on television at 22.15 hours.

But the police did not drive through Wilhelmsburg, the most threatened district of the city, with loud-speakers warning citizens of the imminent danger until ten minutes after midnight.

The noise of the storm made it hard to hear the police warnings.

When the flood waters broke over the dykes police patrol cars drove through the narrow streets with small houses and small gardens where thousands lived in temporary post-war dwellings, with sirens and searchlights.

The church bells in the villages began to ring. Farmers hurried to their cowsheds where the terrified animals were tugging at their tethers.

Suddenly far and wide lights went out and telephone communications went dead. Then one dyke after the other crumbled — over 60 in all.

It was impossible to leave Hamburg to the south because the motorway was three metres under flood water. More than 200 million cubic metres of water roared over the marsh land round the city, carrying with it cars, houses, furniture and people.

The welter of information caused chaos in the city centre police control room and fire brigade operational headquarters. Contacts were broken, emergency call systems no longer functioned, orders could not be transmitted.

At dawn low clouds hung over unending wastes of water.

Hamburg's senator responsible for internal affairs and the police was a little-known Social Democrat called Helmut Schmidt. He returned in the early hours from a conference in Berlin and went straight to operational headquarters in the city and began to organise the rescue.

Schmidt slashed through red tape to coordinate the operation. He called in the army. In the following days, the name of Schmidt was on everybody's lips. The future Chancellor had suddenly won a reputation as a man who gets things done.

The first army helicopters went into the air at Bückeburg near Minden, Celle and Rheine during the heavy storm. At only half the windforce aircraft would normally have been grounded, but then thousands of lives were at stake.

On the Satuday morning people were cowering on house-tops in the vast stretches of water or were clinging to tree branches. In Wilhelmsburg alone 60,000 people were captive in their homes or on the roofs.

The morning after

Rope ladders were lowered from the helicopters, soldiers scrambled down them and took one exhausted storm victim after another up into the machines.

A report later said: "Behind them lay an empty tree branch, an empty rooftop, and death."

Others were rescued from their desperate situation in the water by inflatable dinghies. A considerable impediment to the dinghies' rescue work was the barbed-wire fencing that had surrounded the allotments in the area. This pierced the boots' skin.

A special team quickly got together in a large Hamburg rubber-tyre factory to repair damaged inflatable dinghies.

The situation was still unclear on the Saturday evening when the special disaster committee Schmidt had formed met for the first time. The situation was made more difficult because individual leaders of rescue operations in the disaster area could not communicate with one another. Until this point 22 dead had been found. No-one then knew the full extent of the catastrophe.

Although television was still in operation, it was not until the Monday morning that it was fully realised what had really happened.

The city mourned its 315 dead and provided emergency accommodation for its 12,000 homeless. Damage was estimated at about two billion marks.

Fritz-Eduard Spiess/Joachim Redetzki

(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 16 February 1987)



Flooded streets and motorways cut the city off.

(Photos: *The Great Flood, 1962*, published by Hamburg city council)

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meaning of this in a communist country is clear: no political future.

There will be speculation down to the finest detail about Wolf's departure, but what happens in secret services tends to stay secret, even afterwards.

Some think that this surprise is Wolf's final kick at the West: it will take them a long time to find out what new boss they are playing against on the other side.

George Smiley would probably be in despair.

Otto Jörg Weis

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 7 February 1987)

